

Appl. No: 09/940,580  
Amdt. Dated July 30, 2004  
Reply to Office action of July 12, 2004

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Prior to this Amendment, claims 1-12, 14-24, 30, 33-38, and 41-44 were pending in the application. Claims 8-11, 33, 41, and 42 are canceled. Claims 1-7, 12, 14-24, 30, and 34-38, 43, and 44 remain for consideration by the Examiner.

**Election/Restrictions**

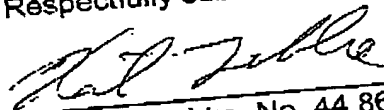
In the July 12, 2004 Office Action, the pending claims were subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121 as being directed to 3 distinct inventions. Claims 1-7, 12, 14-24, 30, 34-38, 43, and 44 were placed in Group I. Claims 8-11 were placed in Group II, and claims 33, 41, and 42 were placed in Group III. The Office Action required that Applicants elect the invention represented by one these three groups for further examination.

With this Amendment, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I without traversing the restriction requirement. Claims 8-11, 33, 41, and 42 are canceled to expedite allowance of this case.

**Conclusion**

No fee is believed due for this submittal. However, any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123. Applicants request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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